



Universiteit Leiden

# Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2019

Programme-specific section:

## Master's Programme: Philosophy (120 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, Tuition Fees and Examination Fees;
- 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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Appendix B - General Academic Skills

Programme-specific 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 the philosophy of a discipline;
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:

- Philosophy of Humanities
- Philosophy of Law (last possible commencement date is 1 February 2020)
- Philosophy of Natural Sciences (last possible commencement date is 1 February 2020)
- Philosophy of Political Science (last possible commencement date is 1 February 2020)
- Philosophy of Psychology (last possible commencement date is 1 February 2020)

In 2020-2021 the programme will have the following specialisations:

- Philosophy of Humanities
- Philosophy of Law, Governance, and Politics
- Philosophy in World Traditions

### **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 the history, foundations, methodology and/or ethics of the specific discipline;
  - b. knowledge and understanding with regard to the social and cultural meaning of philosophy in general and the philosophy of the specific discipline in particular;
  - c. knowledge and understanding of the main philosophical elements of the discipline as well as knowledge of the problems, methods and key terms of these elements.
2. Applying knowledge and understanding

the ability, based on the acquired knowledge and understanding, to contribute to discussions in the philosophy of the specific discipline, and related areas.
3. Judgement
  - a. the ability, on the basis of the sound knowledge of philosophy acquired during the programme, to analyse complex philosophical problems;
  - b. the ability to judge the reliability of different kinds of sources;
  - c. the ability to form judgements based on different kinds of sources;

- d. a realistic view of the reliability of their conclusions;
  - e. the ability to integrate different approaches to philosophical questions and compare these with each other.
4. Communication
- a. the ability to give a clear presentation 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 at an academic level.
5. Learning skills
- the possession of learning skills that allow graduates to continue their study of philosophy and to formulate a research proposal for a PhD.

#### **Article 2.5 Study load**

The programme has a study load of 120 credits.

#### **Article 2.8 Language of instruction**

2.8.1. 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(s) of instruction and examination in the programme, in accordance with the requirements stated in Article 5.2.4.

2.8.2. Contrary to Article 2.8.1, in individual cases the Board of Examiners can permit the student to write the final thesis in another language, in accordance with the Guideline on Language Policy.<sup>2</sup>

### **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.

### **Chapter 4 Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education**

#### **Article 4.2 Obligatory sequence**

Not applicable.

#### **Article 4.3 Form of examination**

4.3.7 The final part of the completion and assessment of the MA thesis is the oral MA examination, which consists of an interview with the candidate on the subject of the thesis conducted by a graduation committee, appointed by the Board of Examiners. The candidate's performance during the interview will be taken into account for the determination of the final grade of the thesis.

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

<sup>2</sup> [Guideline on Language Policy](#)

## Chapter 5 Admission to the Programme

### Article 5.2 Admission to the programme

#### *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 indicated specialisation(s) of) the programme, or who have successfully completed the following prescribed pre-master's/bridging programme:

- a. Not applicable. No direct admission, see Article 5.2.2.
- b. Not applicable.
- c. a prescribed pre-master's/bridging programme pursuant to article 5.4.1. The prescribed pre-masters/bridging programme must be completed within the nominal duration plus one semester (in case of a pre-master's/bridging programme of 30 EC or less) or plus one study year (in case of a pre-master's/bridging programme of more than 30 EC).

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, points a and b, 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, points a and b, possibly under further conditions.

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, and  
either the bachelor's degree is in a discipline relevant to the chosen specialisation and the applicant possesses knowledge, understanding and skills comparable to those acquired upon completion of the bridging programme in philosophy as described in article 5.4, for example by having earned a bachelor's degree in a programme in which philosophy is combined with the chosen discipline;
- or the bachelor's degree is in a discipline relevant to the chosen specialisation and the pre-master's programme in philosophy as described in article 5.4 is completed;
- for the specialisation Philosophy of Humanities, the relevant disciplines must be in the field of modern European languages and cultures, classics, (art) history, culture, or religious studies;
- for the specialisation Philosophy of Law, the relevant disciplines must be in the field of law;
- for the specialisation Philosophy of Political Science, the relevant disciplines must be in the field of (international) political science or public administration;
- for the specialisation Philosophy of Natural Sciences, the relevant disciplines must be in one of the natural sciences;
- for the specialisation Philosophy of Psychology, the relevant disciplines must be in the field of psychology.

Applicants as referred to in Article 5.2.1b and Article 5.2.2. are requested to provide the Board of Admissions with information demonstrating that the applicant possesses the same level of knowledge, understanding and skills as holders of a degree as specified in Article 5.2.1a.

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 Dutch and English languages<sup>3</sup>

5.2.3.1 As further clarification of Article 2.8 concerning command of the language of instruction, a student who wishes to be admitted to an English-taught master's programme must have one of the following diplomas, or must meet the criteria of:

- an [International Baccalaureate](#) diploma (or other with English A);
- a diploma of secondary or higher education completed in the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia or Canada (with the exception of French-taught education in Canada);
- a diploma of an English-taught university degree programme completed at a Dutch research university;
- a pre-university education (VWO) diploma.
- a high school (or higher) diploma obtained in an EEA country, where English has been studied up to and including the final year of the programme, and where the level of English can be considered comparable to Dutch VWO (pre-university education), to be determined by SEA (Admissions Office).

5.2.3.2 If a student who wishes to be admitted does not meet the requirements in 5.2.3.1, at least one of the following English language requirements for this master's programme can be set:

- IELTS 7.0;
- Toefl (internet-based) 100;
- C2 Proficiency (former CPE);
- C1 Advanced (former CAE) 185.

5.2.3.3 Not applicable.

5.2.3.4 Not applicable.

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>.

### Article 5.2.4 Qualitative admission requirements

5.2.4.1 Not applicable.

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<sup>3</sup> Letter of the Minister of Education, Culture and Science of 11 July 2018, decision on costs of standardised tests (costs of standardised tests, including language tests, are to be paid by the study programme from the academic year 2019-2020). This applies for all students. If possible, the Minister will make a decision on a different procedure for students with a diploma from outside the Netherlands.

## Article 5.2.5 **Capacity limitation**

5.2.5.1 Maximum capacity: not applicable.

### ***Admission per 2020-2021***

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, or who have successfully completed the following prescribed pre-master's/bridging programme:

- a. Not applicable. No direct admission, see Article 5.2.2.
- b. Not applicable.
- c. a prescribed pre-master's/bridging programme pursuant to article 5.4.1. The prescribed pre-masters/bridging programme must be completed within the nominal duration plus one semester (in case of a pre-master's/bridging programme of 30 EC or less) or plus one study year (in case of a pre-master's/bridging programme of more than 30 EC).

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, points a and b, 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, points a and b, possibly under further conditions.

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, and  
either the bachelor's degree is in a discipline relevant to the chosen specialisation and the applicant possesses knowledge, understanding and skills comparable to those acquired upon completion of the bridging programme in philosophy as described in article 5.4, for example by having earned a bachelor's degree in a programme in which philosophy is combined with the chosen discipline;
- or the bachelor's degree is in a discipline relevant to the chosen specialisation and the pre-master's programme in philosophy as described in article 5.4 is completed;
- for the specialisation Philosophy of Humanities, the relevant disciplines must be in the field of modern European languages and cultures, classics, (art) history, culture, or religious studies;
- for the specialisation Philosophy of Law, Governance, and Politics, the relevant disciplines must be in the field of law, (international) political science or public administration;
- for the specialisation Philosophy in World Traditions, the relevant disciplines must be in the field of Asian studies or Middle Eastern studies.

Applicants as referred to in Article 5.2.1b and Article 5.2.2. are requested to provide the Board of Admissions with information demonstrating that the applicant possesses the same level of knowledge, understanding and skills as holders of a degree as specified in Article 5.2.1a.

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 Dutch and English languages<sup>4</sup>

5.2.3.1 As further clarification of Article 2.8 concerning command of the language of instruction, a student who wishes to be admitted to an English-taught master's programme must have one of the following diplomas, or must meet the criteria of:

- an [International Baccalaureate](#) diploma (or other with English A);
- a diploma of secondary or higher education completed in the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia or Canada (with the exception of French-taught education in Canada);
- a diploma of an English-taught university degree programme completed at a Dutch research university;
- a pre-university education (VWO) diploma.
- a high school (or higher) diploma obtained in an EEA country, where English has been studied up to and including the final year of the programme, and where the level of English can be considered comparable to Dutch VWO (pre-university education), to be determined by SEA (Admissions Office).

5.2.3.2 If a student who wishes to be admitted does not meet the requirements in 5.2.3.1, at least one of the following English language requirements for this master's programme can be set:

- IELTS 7.0;
- Toefl (internet-based) 100;
- C2 Proficiency (former CPE);
- C1 Advanced (former CAE) 185.

5.2.3.3 Not applicable.

5.2.3.4 Not applicable.

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>.

### Article 5.2.4 Qualitative admission requirements

5.2.4.1 Not applicable.

### Article 5.2.5 Capacity limitation

5.2.5.1 Maximum capacity: not applicable.

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<sup>4</sup> Letter of the Minister of Education, Culture and Science of 11 July 2018, decision on costs of standardised tests (costs of standardised tests, including language tests, are to be paid by the study programme from the academic year 2019-2020). This applies for all students. If possible, the Minister will make a decision on a different procedure for students with a diploma from outside the Netherlands.

## Article 5.4 Pre-master's programmes

5.4.1 The Programme has developed pre-master's programmes (for the following target groups) in order to remove deficiencies.

This pre-master's programme is intended for applicants with a bachelor's degree from a research university, equivalent to the level of a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree, in a subject belonging to the relevant disciplines, who do not fulfil the entry requirements regarding the knowledge, understanding and skills in the field of philosophy, as specified in article 5.2.2. Students who successfully complete this pre-master programme of 60 credits will be admitted to the relevant specialisation of the Master's programme.

### ***For admission in 2019-2020***

The premaster programme consists of:

- compulsory introductory courses of 5 credits each,
- optional course(s) of 5 credits each (if applicable),
- advanced seminar(s) at third-year BA level of 10 credits each,

as specified in the table below.

The choice of components depends on the chosen specialisation in the Master's programme in Philosophy (120 EC).

Abbreviations:

HUM Philosophy of Humanities  
 LAW Philosophy of Law  
 NATS Philosophy of Natural Sciences  
 POLS Philosophy of Political Science  
 PSYCH Philosophy of Psychology

Semester	Course unit title	Level	Credits	HUM	LAW	NATS	POLS	PSYCH
	Compulsory introductory courses (depending on the chosen master's specialisation):							
I	Griekse en Romeinse filosofie / World Philosophies: Greek and Roman Antiquity	100	5	X	X		X	
I	Logica / Logic	200	5			X		
I/II	Ethiek / Ethics	100	5	X	X		X	
I	History of Modern Philosophy	200	5	X	X	X	X	X
I	Metafysica	100	5			X		X
I	Philosophy of Culture	100	5	X				
I	Taalfilosofie	200	5			X		X
I	Wetenschapsfilosofie / Philosophy of Science	200	5			X		X
I	Politieke filosofie / Political Philosophy	200	5		X		X	
I	Philosophy of Mind	200	5					X
I	Comparative Philosophy	200	5	X				
II	Epistemologie / Epistemology	200	5		X	X	X	X
II	Continental filosofie	200	5	X				



II	History of Political Philosophy	200	5	X	X		X	
II	Academische vaardigheden Filosofie I/ Academic Skills Philosophy I	100	5	X	X		X	
				40	35	30	35	30
	Optional courses: select one (Law and Political Science) or two (Natural Sciences and Psychology)			HUM	LAW	NATS	POLS	PSYCH
I	Griekse en Romeinse filosofie	100	5			X		X
I	Logica / Logic	200	5		X		X	X
I/II	Ethiek / Ethics	100	5			X		X
I	Philosophy of Culture	100	5		X	X	X	X
I	Philosophy of Mind	200	5			X		
I	Wetenschapsfilosofie / Philosophy of Science	200	5		X		X	
I	Politieke filosofie / Political Philosophy	200	5					X
I	Comparative Philosophy	200	5		X	X	X	X
I	Filosofie en religie: water en vuur?	200	5					X
II	Medieval Philosophy	100	5		X		X	
				0	5	10	5	10
	Advanced seminars: select two seminars from the courses available for the chosen specialisation:				LAW	NATS	POLS	PSYCH
I	Reading Avicenna in Arabic, Hebrew, and Latin Philosophy: Avicennan Metaphysics in its Medieval Context	400	10			X		X
I	Logic and Phenomenology	400	10			X		X
I	Metaethics	400	10		X	X	X	X
I	Recht en het individu	300	10		X		X	
I	Rawls' Theory of Justice	400	10		X		X	
I	Kritische theorie	300	10	X	X		X	
I	Art and Aesthetics	400	10	X				
I	Filosofie van mens, techniek en cultuur 1 (TBA)	300/400	10	X				
I	Philosophy of Mind, Culture and Technology 2 (TBA)	300/400	10	X				
II	Aristoteles Ethica Nicomachea	300	10		X		X	X
II	Kripke's Naming and Necessity	400	10			X		X
II	Past, Present and Future: The Philosophy of Time	400	10			X		X
II	Environmental Philosophy	400	10		X		X	
II	Kant's Moral Philosophy	300/	10		X		X	
II	Morele psychologie	400	10		X		X	X
II	Denkers van de dialoog: Levinas, Buber en Rosenzweig	300	10	X				
II	Heidegger - van Dasein tot Kehre	300	10	X				
II	Merleau-Ponty's Political Thought	300	10	X	X		X	
II	Hegels rechtsfilosofie	400	10	X	X		X	
II	Philosophy of History	300/400	10	X				
II	Violence: Existential and Political Perspectives	300/400	10	X				
				20	20	20	20	20

## For admission in 2020-2021

The premaster programme consists of:

- compulsory introductory courses of 5 credits each,
- optional course of 5 credits (if applicable),
- advanced seminar(s) at third-year BA level of 10 credits each,

as specified in the table below.

The choice of components depends on the chosen specialisation in the Master's programme in Philosophy (120 EC).

Abbreviations:

HUM Philosophy of Humanities  
 LAW Philosophy of Law, Governance, and Politics  
 PWT Philosophy in World Traditions

Semester	Course unit title	Level	Credits	HUM	LGP	PWT
	Compulsory introductory courses (depending on the chosen master's specialisation):					
I	Griekse en Romeinse filosofie / World Philosophies: Greek and Roman Antiquity	100	5	X	X	X
I	World Philosophies: China	100	5			X
I	History of Modern Philosophy	200	5	X	X	X
I/II	Ethiek / Ethics	100	5	X	X	X
I	Politieke filosofie / Political Philosophy	200	5		X	
I	Metafysica	100	5			
I	Logica / Logic	200	5			
I	Taalfilosofie	200	5			
I	Wetenschapsfilosofie / Philosophy of Science	200	5			
I	Philosophy of Mind	200	5			
I	Philosophy of Culture	100	5	X		X
I	Comparative Philosophy	200	5	X		
II	World Philosophies: India	100	5			X
II	World Philosophies: Middle East	200	5			X
II	History of Political Philosophy	200	5	X	X	X
II	Epistemologie / Epistemology	200	5		X	
II	Continente filosofie	200	5	X		
II	Academische vaardigheden Filosofie I/ Academic Skills Philosophy I	100	5	X	X	X
				40	35	45
	Optional courses: select one course (except for HUM)					
I/II	Ethiek / Ethics	100	5			
I	Philosophy of Culture	100	5		X	
I	Logica / Logic	200	5		X	

I	Wetenschapsfilosofie / Philosophy of Science	200	5		X	
I	Comparative Philosophy	200	5		X	
I	Language and Thought	200	5			X
I	Concepts of Self	200	5			X
II	Medieval Philosophy	100	5		X	
II	History of Political Philosophy	200	5			
II	Continentale filosofie	200	5		X	
				0	5	5
	Select one (PWT) or two (HUM, LGP) advanced seminar(s) from the courses available for the chosen specialisation.			HUM	LGP	PWT
	Courses in Philosophy of Mind, Culture and Technology	300-400	10	X		
	Courses in Ethics and Political Philosophy	300-400	10		X	
	Courses in Global and Comparative Philosophy	300-400	10			X
				20	20	10

5.4.2 Information regarding the pre-master's programmes can be requested from the coordinator of studies of the programme.

## Chapter 7 Evaluation of the programme

### Article 7.1 Evaluation of the programme

The programme is evaluated as follows:

- course evaluations
- programme evaluation