



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2019

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, 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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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 (last possible commencement date is 1 February 2020)
- History and Philosophy of the Sciences (last possible commencement date is 1 February 2020)
- Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture (last possible commencement date is 1 February 2020)
- Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy

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

- Global and Comparative Philosophy
- Modern European Philosophy
- Moral and Political Philosophy
- Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy
- Philosophy of Knowledge

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.
2. Applying knowledge and understanding

the ability, on the basis of the knowledge and understanding of philosophy they have acquired, to contribute to current discussions in philosophy 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 60 credits.

Article 2.8 Language of instruction

2.8.1. 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 of instruction of the programme.

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.²

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, 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.

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

² [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 and one of its specialisations, or who have successfully completed the following prescribed pre-master's/bridging programme:

- a. a bachelor's degree from a Dutch research university (in the specialisation) in:

<i>Specialisation master</i>	<i>Admission on the basis of bachelor programme, with specialisation</i>
Ethics and Politics	Philosophy
History and Philosophy of the Sciences	Philosophy
Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture	Philosophy
Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy	Philosophy

- 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.

To be considered as holding a degree equal to the one specified in 5.2.1a, 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:
 - relevant knowledge of theoretical philosophy and its history, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for History and Philosophy of the Sciences, as specified in Article 5.4;
- Ethics and Politics:
 - relevant knowledge of ethics and political philosophy and their history, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for Ethics and Politics, as specified in Article 5.4;
- Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture:

- relevant knowledge of philosophical anthropology and philosophy of culture and their history, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture, as specified in Article 5.4;
- Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy
 - relevant knowledge of contemporary ethics, political philosophy and/or political theory, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy, as specified in Article 5.4.

Applicants with a bachelor's degree from a Dutch research university in International Studies who have completed courses in philosophy with a total course load of at least 35 ECTS credits are considered to have fulfilled all entry requirements for *Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy*.

Applicants with a bachelor's degree from a Dutch research university in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Global Challenges and who completed courses in philosophy with a total course load of at least 35 credits are admitted to *Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy* on the basis of Article 5.3. Depending on the contents of the completed courses, the Board of Admissions will determine an additional catch-up programme as referred to in Article 5.3.3.

Applicants who are in possession of a bachelor's degree in Political Science or in Public Administration from a Dutch research university are admitted to *Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy* on the basis of Article 5.3. The Board of Admissions has determined a catch-up programme, as referred to in Article 5.3.3, for 15 ECTS credits of deficiencies, consisting of the following bachelor's courses: Academic Skills Philosophy I (5 EC), Ethics (5 EC), and Political Philosophy (5 EC).

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 languages³

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).

³ 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.

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.

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 and one of its specialisations, or who have successfully completed the following prescribed pre-master’s/bridging programme:

- a. a bachelor’s degree from from a Dutch research university (in the specialisation) in:

<i>Specialisation master</i>	<i>Admission on the basis of bachelor programme, with specialisation</i>
Global and Comparative Philosophy	Philosophy: Global and Comparative Perspectives
Modern European Philosophy	Philosophy
Moral and Political Philosophy	Philosophy
Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy	Philosophy
Philosophy of Knowledge	Philosophy

- b. for the specialisation Global and Comparative Philosophy: a bachelor’s degree in Philosophy from a Dutch research university, provided the student has completed courses in the field of global and comparative philosophy with a total course load of at least 30 EC;
- 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.

To be considered as holding a degree equal to the one specified in 5.2.1a, 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:

- Global and Comparative Philosophy:
 - relevant knowledge of Western and non-Western traditions in philosophy and their history, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for Global and Comparative Philosophy, as specified in Article 5.4;
- Modern European Philosophy:
 - relevant knowledge of the history of Western philosophy, especially the German and French traditions of the 19th and 20th centuries, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for Modern European Philosophy, as specified in Article 5.4;
- Moral and Political Philosophy:
 - relevant knowledge of ethics and political philosophy and their history, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for Moral and Political Philosophy, as specified in Article 5.4;
- Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy
 - relevant knowledge of contemporary ethics, political philosophy and/or political theory, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy, as specified in Article 5.4;
- Philosophy of Knowledge:
 - relevant knowledge of theoretical philosophy and its history, equivalent to the knowledge obtained in the pre-master's programme for Philosophy of Knowledge, as specified in Article 5.4.

Applicants with a bachelor's degree from a Dutch research university in International Studies who have completed courses in philosophy with a total course load of at least 35 ECTS credits are considered to have fulfilled all entry requirements for *Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy*.

Applicants with a bachelor's degree from a Dutch research university in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Global Challenges and who completed courses in philosophy with a total course load of at least 35 credits are admitted to *Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy* on the basis of Article 5.3. Depending on the contents of the completed courses, the Board of Admissions will determine an additional catch-up programme as referred to in Article 5.3.3.

Applicants who are in possession of a bachelor's degree in Political Science or in Public Administration from a Dutch research university are admitted to *Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy* on the basis of Article 5.3. The Board of Admissions has determined a catch-up programme, as referred to in Article 5.3.3, for 15 ECTS credits of deficiencies, consisting of the following bachelor's courses: Academic Skills Philosophy I (5 EC), Ethics (5 EC), and Political Philosophy (5 EC).

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 languages⁴

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.

⁴ 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.

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. Pre-master's programmes must be completed successfully within the prescribed period as specified in sub Article 5.2.1c.

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, 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 EC will be admitted to the relevant specialisation of the Master's programme.

For admission in 2019-2020

The pre-master's programme has a course load of 60 credits and 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 (60 EC).

Abbreviations:

EP	Ethics and Politics
HPS	History and Philosophy of the Sciences
PAPC	Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture
3PE	Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy

Semester	Course unit title	Level	Credits	EP	HPS	PAPC	3PE
	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	X
I	History of Modern Philosophy	200	5	X	X	X	X
I/II	Ethiek / Ethics	100	5	X		X	X
I	Politieke filosofie / Political Philosophy	200	5	X			X
I	Metafysica	100	5		X		
I	Logica / Logic	200	5		X		
I	Taalfilosofie	200	5		X		

I	Wetenschapsfilosofie / Philosophy of Science	200	5		X		
I	Philosophy of Mind	200	5		X		
I	Philosophy of Culture	100	5			X	
I	Comparative Philosophy	200	5			X	
II	History of Political Philosophy	200	5	X		X	X
II	Epistemologie / Epistemology	200	5	X	X		X
II	Continentale filosofie	200	5			X	
II	Academische vaardigheden Filosofie I / Academic Skills Philosophy I	100	5	X	X	X	X
				35	45	40	35
	Optional courses: select one course (except for PAPC)			EP	HPS	PAPC	3PE
I/II	Ethiek / Ethics	100	5		X		
I	Philosophy of Culture	100	5	X	X		X
I	Logica / Logic	200	5	X			X
I	Wetenschapsfilosofie / Philosophy of Science	200	5	X			X
I	Comparative Philosophy	200	5	X	X		X
II	Medieval Philosophy	100	5	X	X		X
II	History of Political Philosophy	200	5		X		
II	Continentale filosofie	200	5	X	X		X
				5	5	0	5
	Select one (HPS) or two (PAPC, EP, 3PE) advanced seminars from the courses available for the chosen specialisation.			EP	HPS	PAPC	3PE
I	Reading Avicenna in Arabic, Hebrew, and Latin Philosophy: Avicennan Metaphysics in its Medieval Context	400	10		X		
I	Logic and Phenomenology	400	10		X		
I	Metaethics	400	10	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	Kripke's Naming and Necessity	400	10		X		
II	Past, Present and Future: The Philosophy of Time	400	10		X		
II	Aristoteles Ethica Nicomachea	300	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
II	Merleau-Ponty's Political Thought	300	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	Hegels rechtsfilosofie	400	10	X		X	X
II	Philosophy of History	400	10			X	
II	Violence: Existential and Political Perspectives	400	10			X	
				20	10	20	20

For admission in 2020-2021

The pre-master's programme has a course load of 60 credits and consists of:

- compulsory introductory courses of 5 credits each,
- optional course 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 (60 EC).

Abbreviations:

GCP	Global and Comparative Philosophy
MEP	Modern European Philosophy
MPP	Moral and Political Philosophy
3PE	Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy
PK	Philosophy of Knowledge

Semester	Course unit title	Level	Credits					
				GCP	MEP	MPP	3PE	PK
	Compulsory introductory courses (depending on the chosen master's specialisation):			GCP	MEP	MPP	3PE	PK
I	Griekse en Romeinse filosofie / World Philosophies: Greek and Roman Antiquity	100	5	X	X	X	X	X
I	World Philosophies: China	100	5	X				
I	History of Modern Philosophy	200	5	X	X	X	X	X
I/II	Ethiek / Ethics	100	5	X	X	X	X	
I	Politieke filosofie / Political Philosophy	200	5			X	X	
I	Metafysica	100	5					X
I	Logica / Logic	200	5					X
I	Taalfilosofie	200	5					X
I	Wetenschapsfilosofie / Philosophy of Science	200	5					X
I	Philosophy of Mind	200	5					X
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	X	
II	Epistemologie / Epistemology	200	5			X	X	X
II	Continentele filosofie	200	5		X			
II	Academische vaardigheden Filosofie I / Academic Skills Philosophy I	100	5	X	X	X	X	X
				45	40	35	35	45
	Optional courses: select one course (except for MEP)			GCP	MEP	MPP	3PE	PK

I/II	Ethiek / Ethics	100	5					X
I	Philosophy of Culture	100	5			X	X	X
I	Logica / Logic	200	5			X	X	
I	Wetenschapsfilosofie / Philosophy of Science	200	5			X	X	
I	Comparative Philosophy	200	5			X	X	X
I	Language and Thought	200	5	X				
I	Concepts of Self	200	5	X				
II	Medieval Philosophy	100	5			X	X	X
II	History of Political Philosophy	200	5					X
II	Continentale filosofie	200	5			X	X	X
				5	0	5	5	5
	Select one (GCP, PK) or two (MEP, MPP, 3PE) advanced seminar(s) from the courses available for the chosen specialisation.			GCP	MEP	MPP	3PE	PK
	Courses in Philosophy of Mind, Culture and Technology	300-400	10		X			
	Courses in Ethics and Political Philosophy	300-400	10			X	X	
	Courses in Theoretical Philosophy	300-400	10					X
	Courses in Global and Comparative Philosophy	300-400	10	X				
				10	20	20	20	10

Chapter 7 Evaluation of the programme

Article 7.1 Evaluation of the programme

The programme is evaluated as follows:

- course evaluations
- programme evaluation